(c) whether the Task force has since submitted its report;

(d) if so, the highlights of the report and if not by when the report is expected;

(e) whether the major sectorial policy changes suggested by the Task Force with regard to the rights of labour and creation of new employment opportunities would be presented to Parliament for discussion; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Task Force on "Employment Opportunities" was set up to suggest strategies of employment generation for achieving the target of providing employment opportunities to 10 crore people over the next 10 years.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The Full Task Force Report has been placed in Parliament'Library (Call No. 331.1R/P1 and Class No. 331.1R). Chapter 8 of the said Report gives Summary of Recommendations.

(e) and (f) The report is under examination.

**Construction of NHs in North Eastern States**

3478. SHRI W. ANGOU SINGH. Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any planning for the areas where the Super National Highways cannot touch specially the land locked areas of the North Eastern States;

(b) the reasons for not touching the required breadth of the roads of National Highways running through the North Eastern States; and

(c) the funds allocated to each NH of the North Eastern States for the year 2001-2002?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B. C. KHANDURI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Alignment of the National Highway Development Project has been finalised keeping in view the traffic density and maximum economic benefits to the country;

(c) An allocation of Rs. 267.00 crore has been made for the year 2001-2002 for development of National Highways in the North Eastern States. These funds are allocated State-wise and not NH-wise.

**Status of National Highways Projects**

13479. SHRI LAJPAT RAI: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the status of National Highways Projects announced by the Prime Minister as on date and the States where it has been implemented giving details of the work completed so far;

(b) whether priority has been given to the States with most backward and hilly areas in the country;

(c) the States where the number of National Highways is negligible; and

(d) whether Government propose to invite private sector participation keeping in view the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B. C. KHANDURI): (a) State-wise details of NHDP length is at statement *(See* below). The status of National Highway Development Project (NHDP) announced by the Prime Minister is as under:

| | Total Length *(Km)* | 4-laning Completed *(Km)* | Under Implementation *(Km)* |
|---|---|---|---|
| Golden Quadrilateral (GQ) connecting Delhi, Mumbai, Chennai, Kolkata, Delhi | 5952 | 869 | 2484 |
| North-South and East-West corridors connecting Srinagar with Kanyakumari and Silchar with Porbander | 7300 | 658 | 562 |
| TOTAL | 13252 | 1527 | 3046 |

(b) and (c) The route for NHDP has finalised keeping in view a number of factors such as areas and population to be served, traffic on the routes, optimum length of construction etc.

(d) Yes, Sir.

† Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.